

GAME BOY ADVANCE

AGB-BZ6E-USA



FINAL FANTASY VI[®]

ADVANCE

INSTRUCTION BOOKLET

SQUARE ENIX[™]

PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE SEPARATE HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS BOOKLET INCLUDED WITH THIS PRODUCT BEFORE USING YOUR NINTENDO® HARDWARE SYSTEM, GAME PAK OR ACCESSORY. THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS IMPORTANT HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: READ THE FOLLOWING WARNINGS BEFORE YOU OR YOUR CHILD PLAY VIDEO GAMES.

WARNING - Seizures

- Some people (about 1 in 4000) may have seizures or blackouts triggered by light flashes or patterns, such as while watching TV or playing video games, even if they have never had a seizure before.
- Anyone who has had a seizure, loss of awareness, or other symptom linked to an epileptic condition should consult a doctor before playing a video game.
- Parents should watch when their children play video games. Stop playing and consult a doctor if you or your child have any of the following symptoms:

Convulsions

Altered vision

Eye or muscle twitching

Involuntary movements

Loss of awareness

Disorientation

- To reduce the likelihood of a seizure when playing video games:
 1. Sit or stand as far from the screen as possible.
 2. Play video games on the smallest available television screen.
 3. Do not play if you are tired or need sleep.
 4. Play in a well-lit room.
 5. Take a 10 to 15 minute break every hour.

WARNING - Repetitive Motion Injuries and Eyestrain

Playing video games can make your muscles, joints, skin or eyes hurt after a few hours. Follow these instructions to avoid problems such as tendinitis, carpal tunnel syndrome, skin irritation or eyestrain:

- Avoid excessive play. It is recommended that parents monitor their children for appropriate play.
- Take a 10 to 15 minute break every hour, even if you don't think you need it.
- If your hands, wrists or arms or eyes become tired or sore while playing, stop and rest them for several hours before playing again.
- If you continue to have sore hands, wrists or arms or eyes during or after play, stop playing and see a doctor.

WARNING - Battery Leakage

Nintendo portable video game systems contain a rechargeable lithium ion battery pack. Leakage of ingredients contained within the battery pack, or the combustion products of the ingredients, can cause personal injury as well as damage to your hardware. If battery leakage occurs, avoid contact with skin. If contact occurs, immediately wash thoroughly with soap and water. If liquid leaking from a battery pack comes into contact with your eyes, immediately flush thoroughly with water and see a doctor.

To avoid battery leakage:

- Do not expose battery to excessive physical shock, vibration, or liquids.
- Do not disassemble, attempt to repair or deform the battery.
- Do not dispose of battery pack in a fire.
- Do not touch the terminals of the battery, or cause a short between the terminals with a metal object.
- Do not peel or damage the battery label.

The official seal is your assurance that this product is licensed or manufactured by Nintendo. Always look for this seal when buying video game systems, accessories, games and related products.

Nintendo does not license the sale or use of products without the Official Nintendo Seal.



THIS GAME PAK WILL WORK ONLY WITH THE GAME BOY® ADVANCE, GAME BOY® MICRO, OR NINTENDO DS™ VIDEO GAME SYSTEMS.


NEED HELP PLAYING A GAME?

Nintendo's game pages, at www.nintendo.com/games, feature walkthroughs, frequently-asked questions, and codes for many of our games. If your answer isn't there, check out our forums where you can exchange tips with other gamers online.

For more information about our forums, visit
www.nintendo.com/community.

If you prefer to use your phone, recorded tips for some of our hottest games are available on our Power Line at **(425) 885-7529**. This may be a long-distance call, so please ask permission from whoever pays the phone bill.





PROLOGUE

The ancient War of the Magi...

When its flames at last receded, only the charred husk of a world remained. Even the power of magic was lost...

In the thousand years that followed, iron, gunpowder, and steam engines took the place of magic, and life slowly returned to the barren land...

Yet there now stands one who would reawaken the magic of ages past, and use its dread power as a means by which to conquer all the world...

...Could anyone truly be foolish enough to repeat that mistake?

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CHARACTERS

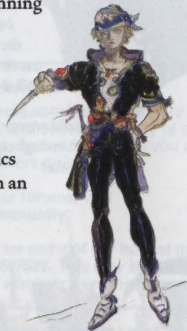


TERRA BRANFORD

A mysterious girl, born with the power of magic and enslaved by the Gestahlian Empire. The secrets of her past and the reason for her unusual abilities remain unknown...even to Terra herself.

SPECIAL ABILITY - MAGIC

Terra can use magic from the beginning of the game, and learns new spells as she rises in level.



LOCKE COLE

A treasure hunter searching the world over for valuable relics of the past. A certain turning point in his life led him to join an underground Imperial-resistance group known as the Returners. Locke will go to any length to protect those he loves.

SPECIAL ABILITY - STEAL

Locke can steal items from enemies in battle.



MOG

A music- and dance-loving moogle who lives deep within the mines of Narshe. Mog is exceptionally brave for a moogle, and will never turn his back on those in need of aid.

SPECIAL ABILITY - DANCE

Mog can control the power of nature through his dance. He learns new dances as he fights in different surroundings.

Y. K. - 03



EDGAR RONI FIGARO

The young king of the technologically advanced kingdom of Figaro. Edgar is exceedingly confident, optimistic...and a notorious ladies' man.

SPECIAL ABILITY - TOOLS

Edgar can use an array of high-tech tools to attack enemies. The effects of each tool are different.



Y. K. - 03



SABIN RENE FIGARO

Edgar's twin brother. Sabin left Figaro Castle at a young age to pursue a life of freedom, choosing to undergo training as a monk. Headstrong but humble, Sabin is Edgar's polar opposite.

SPECIAL ABILITY - BLITZ

Entering the proper command sequences allows Sabin to perform powerful martial arts moves. He devises new blitz techniques as he gains levels.

CYAN GARAMONDE

A master swordsman hailing from the eastern kingdom of Doma. Cyan is a man of honor who has sworn undying fealty to his king and country. Doma's traditional culture has been slow to adopt modern technology, leaving Cyan unexposed to most things mechanical.

SPECIAL ABILITY - BUSHIDO

When using a katana, Cyan can store up energy to unleash powerful samurai sword techniques. He masters new techniques as he rises in level.





GAU

A boy abandoned on the Veldt and raised among monsters. He may have trouble expressing his feelings through words, but that doesn't stop him from caring about his friends as much as anyone else.

SPECIAL ABILITIES - LEAP, RAGE

Gau can leap into packs of monsters on the Veldt, studying their fighting styles and later using them in battle by means of his Rage command.



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88-11



CELES CHERE

A former Imperial general. Celes was raised to be an elite Magitek knight from a young age, acquiring the ability to use a limited amount of magic through an experimental Magitek infusion.

SPECIAL ABILITY - RUNIC

Celes can use her sword as a lightning rod for magic, harmlessly absorbing magic spells as MP.



SETZER GABBIANI

The owner of the flying casino known as the Blackjack. A gambler through and through, Setzer lives for thrills and pays little attention to anything that is not of personal interest.

SPECIAL ABILITY - SLOT

Setzer can play a slot machine in battle, triggering various effects depending on the results. Of course, Lady Luck is a fickle mistress, and there's always a chance that things could go horribly wrong...



SHADOW

An assassin who would as readily kill a man as help him, depending on who was paying the bill. Cold and calculating, Shadow is a man of few words. He travels with his dog, Interceptor, at all times.

SPECIAL ABILITY - THROW

Shadow can attack enemies by throwing items at them. The amount and type of damage depend on the item that is thrown.





RELM ARROWNY

A young girl raised by Strago after her parents left her behind. She loves to draw and paint, and always puts on a happy-go-lucky performance to hide the loneliness that she truly feels inside.

SPECIAL ABILITY - SKETCH

Relm can draw pictures of enemies that come to life and attack her real foes. She may fail from time to time if the enemy is particularly difficult to sketch.



STRAGO MAGUS

An elderly gentleman who has spent his life pursuing the secrets of monsters. Despite his age and appearance, he is full of vitality and hates to be treated like an old man.

SPECIAL ABILITY - LORE

Strago is thoroughly versed in monster lore, and can learn to cast the special blue magic spells used by monsters.



BASIC CONTROLS

These are the basic controls for the game. For more specific information, see the other sections of this booklet or follow the on-screen cues.

+CONTROL PAD

- Move character
- Move cursor

The character or cursor will move in the direction the +Control Pad is pressed.

cursor

Items
Abilities
Equip
Relics
Status
Formation
Config
Quicksave
Save

SELECT

- Show/Hide world map
- Skip character's turn in battle

A BUTTON + B BUTTON + START + SELECT

- Return to the title screen.

START

- Open main menu
- Pause/Resume battle



L BUTTON, R BUTTON

- ◆ Scroll through lists
- ◆ Cycle through pages
- ◆ Select multiple targets for a spell



Within menus, these buttons can be used to cycle through the characters in your party.

L BUTTON + R BUTTON

- ◆ Press and hold to flee from battle.

A BUTTON

- ◆ Confirm
- ◆ Examine
- ◆ Talk
- ◆ Board airship



This button is the primary button used for gathering information.

B BUTTON

- ◆ Cancel
 - ◆ Dash
- (Press and hold to move faster in towns and dungeons.)

GETTING STARTED

Insert the FINAL FANTASY VI Advance Game Pak into your Game Boy Advance system and turn the power on.

Starting a Game

Once the title screen appears, press any button to open the title menu. Select the desired option from the menu to begin playing, or select "Extra" to access extra features such as the Bestiary (see p. 28).



New Game

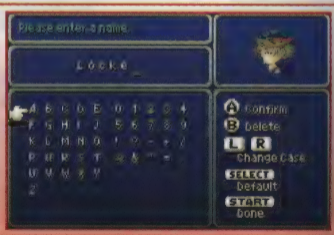
This option allows you to start playing from the beginning.

Name Entry

As you proceed through the game, you will be prompted to enter names for certain characters.

Name Entry Screen Controls

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| +Control Pad | Move cursor |
| A Button | Enter selected letter |
| B Button | Backspace |
| L Button / R Button | Toggle uppercase or lowercase |
| START | Confirm name and exit menu |
| SELECT | Revert to default name |





Load Game

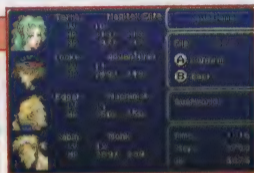
This option allows you to continue a previously saved game. Use the +Control Pad to select one of the three save files.

Saving a Game

You must save your game before quitting if you want to continue playing later without losing any of the progress you have made. Select “Save” from the main menu to save your game (see p. 29). You can save at save points or anywhere on the overworld map and may maintain up to three different saved games.

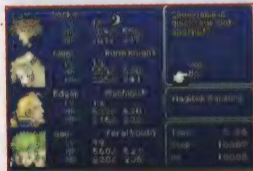


Save Point



Quicksave

Selecting “Quicksave” from the main menu allows you to temporarily save your game regardless of your location (see p. 29). You can then select “Continue” at the title screen to resume playing from the same point. Unlike a normal save file, the quicksave file will be deleted once it has been loaded. It will also be deleted if you select “New Game” or load any other saved game.



GAME INTERFACE

FINAL FANTASY VI Advance utilizes three different types of views during the course of the game.



EXPLORATION

(OVERWORLD/TOWNS/
DUNGEONS)

Most of the story will unfold on these maps as you travel around the world on your adventure.



MENUS

Pressing START from any map will open the main menu, where you can make any necessary preparations for your adventure.



BATTLE

The battle screen appears if you encounter enemies while exploring. Select commands from the menu to fight.

GETTING AROUND

In the game world's various locations, you will need to talk to other characters, purchase items, and reach certain destinations.

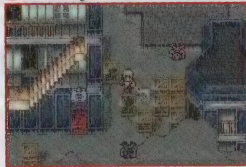
Map Screens

There are two different types of map screens: the overworld map, and town and dungeon maps.

Overworld



Town/Dungeon



World Map

From the overworld map, you can press SELECT to toggle the display of the small world map in the lower right-hand corner of the screen. Your current location is indicated by the red dot on this map. When riding a chocobo or flying an airship, a smaller red dot will also be shown to indicate the direction you are facing.



Talk/Examine

You can talk to other characters or examine objects by pressing the A Button. Speaking to others may sometimes yield valuable information.

Beyond Mt. Kold: He the Sabre Mountain.



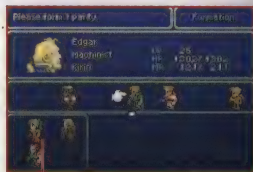
Parties

During the course of your adventure, you will control a party composed of up to four members.



Changing Party Members

As you proceed through the game, you will eventually be able to choose which characters to include in your party. Talk to any ally who is not currently in your party to open the party formation screen shown on the right. Move the desired characters into the party window, and then press START to confirm your choice.



Party Window

Controlling Multiple Parties

At certain points during the game, you will control multiple parties at once. You can press SELECT to switch between them.

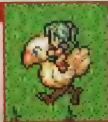


Modes of Transportation

Walking is not the only way to move around on the overworld map.

CHOCOBO

You can rent chocobos at chocobo stables. These swift-moving birds will allow you to get to your destination quickly, and without encountering enemies. Chocobos return to their stables as soon as you dismount.



Chocobo Controls

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| +Control Pad | Up: Move forward, Left/Right: Turn |
| A Button | Move forward |
| B Button | Dismount |
| L Button and +Control Pad Left | Sharp left turn |
| R Button and +Control Pad Right | Sharp right turn |

AIRSHIP

Airships are large, fast-flying ships. Stand over an airship and press the A Button to take off.



Airship Controls

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| +Control Pad | Up: Descend, Down: Ascend, Left/Right: Turn |
| A Button | Move forward |
| B Button | Land (only over level ground) |
| L Button and +Control Pad Left | Sharp left turn |
| R Button and +Control Pad Right | Sharp right turn |
| START | Go amidships |
| L Button + R Button and +Control Pad | Move in any direction without turning |

Shops and Services

You will find a variety of helpful shopkeepers in towns that will provide services in exchange for gil (the currency of the game world).



Inn



Staying at an inn allows party members to recover HP and MP, and also removes all status effects (see p. 39).

Chocobo Stable



At chocobo stables, you can rent chocobos to ride on the overworld map (see p. 17). Chocobos are especially useful when traveling over great distances.

Weapon Shop



Armor Shop



Item Shop



Relic Shop

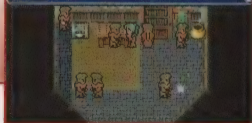


You can buy and sell items and equipment at these shops. Inventory will vary from one merchant to another.

Adventurer's School

You can receive some very helpful hints at the adventurer's school in Narshe. It may be worth your while to stop in sometime and see what you can learn.

Potions may taste funny, but they also heal injury. If you are hurt, drink one to restore some HP.





Shopping

Speak to a shopkeeper to open the shop menu. Select “Buy” if you want to purchase items, or “Sell” if you want to sell unneeded items in your inventory. Select an item you want to buy or sell from the list, adjust the quantity with the +Control Pad, then press the A Button to confirm the transaction.



Characters who can equip the selected item will raise their hands, and a white arrow (▶) will appear beneath each character currently in your party. In the case of weapons or armor, the following icons are shown to the left of characters who can equip the selected item to indicate how the item compares to the one currently equipped.



Stronger



Weaker



No Change



Already Equipped

MAIN MENU

Pressing START from the overworld map, or any town or dungeon, will open the main menu.

Menu Screen

The character in the uppermost slot is the one who will appear on the map screen.

The Main Menu screen displays character information, menu commands, current location, time played, step count, and party funds. Callouts point to specific elements:

- Character Information**: Points to the character slot for Terra.
- Menu Commands (see pp.22-29)**: Points to the list of menu commands.
- Current Location**: Points to the 'Overworld' location indicator.
- Time Played**: Points to the 'Time' field showing 10:19.
- Step Count**: Points to the 'Steps' field showing 3635.
- Party Funds**: Points to the 'Gil' field showing 6707.

| Character | Class | LV | HP | MP |
|-----------|---------------|----|----------|--------|
| Terra | Magitek Elite | 10 | 192/ 213 | 97/ 97 |
| Locke | Adventurer | 11 | 216/ 249 | |
| Edgar | Machinist | 11 | 211/ 250 | |
| Sabin | Monk | 12 | 277/ 289 | |

Menu Commands:

- Items
- Abilities
- Equip
- Relics
- Status
- Formation
- Config
- QuickSave
- Save

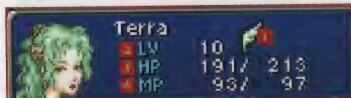
Overworld

Time: 10:19
Steps: 3635
Gil: 6707



Character Information

Basic information is displayed for each character, such as the character's level and HP and MP totals.



1 Status Icon

Icons are shown if there are any status effects on the character (see p. 39).

2 Level

A character's level increases after the character gains enough experience points (EXP) in battle.

3 HP / Max HP

Hit points are lost when a character is hurt in combat or by other means.

4 MP / Max MP

Magic points are used to cast magic spells.

Formation

The portraits of characters in the front row are aligned slightly to the left, and those of characters in the back row are aligned slightly to the right. You can move characters between the two rows or rearrange your party members by selecting "Formation" from the main menu.

Front Row

Back Row

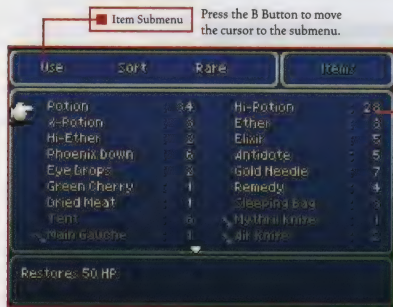


MENU COMMANDS

This section provides a detailed explanation of each command displayed in the main menu.

Items

This menu allows you to view and use the items in your inventory. You can use the L and R Buttons to quickly scroll through the list.



Inventory
Items that can be used are displayed in white.

Submenu Commands

| | |
|------|---|
| Use | Allows you to select an item and use it. |
| Sort | Sorts the item list by category. |
| Rare | Shows special items that are important to your quest. |



Using Items

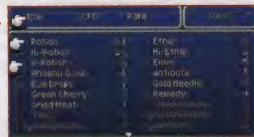
Move the cursor next to the name of an item displayed in white and press the A Button twice to use it. Depending on the item, you may be prompted to select a target character.

Selecting a piece of equipment instead of a usable item will show detailed information about the item, such as the list of characters who can equip it.



Rearranging Your Inventory

You can rearrange the items in your inventory. First select an item and press the A Button once, then select another item and press the A Button again. The positions of the two items will be exchanged.



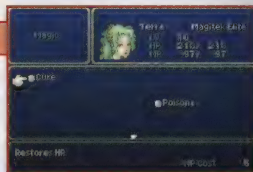
Item Types

There are numerous item categories in the game, and a different icon is displayed for each one.

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|
|  Knife |  Sword |  Polearm |  Katana |  Rod |  Throwing Weapon / Flail |
|  Brush |  Claws |  Gambling Equipment |  Shuriken |  Scroll | |
|  Tool |  Shield |  Helm |  Armor |  Relic | |

Abilities

This menu allows you to view information about the abilities a character has learned. Select a category to view the list of known abilities. You can also cast magic spells by selecting “Magic” or equip magicite by selecting “Espers.”



Casting Spells on the Entire Party

Some magic spells can be cast on the entire party. Press either the L or R Button or +Control Pad Left or Right to select all party members, then press the A Button to cast the spell.



Equip

Select "Equip" from the main menu to view or change your characters' currently equipped weapons and armor. Keep in mind that the set of weapons and armor that each character can equip is different.

Note: To view the entire party's current equipment, select "Equip" from the main menu, press +Control Pad Left or Right to select all party members, and then press the A Button.

The screenshot shows the Equip menu interface. At the top, there are three buttons: "Equip Remove", "Optimize Remove All", and "Equip". Below these are slots for "Right Hand", "Left Hand", "Head", and "Body". The "Right Hand" slot is currently empty, while the others contain "Flametongue", "Golden Shield", "Mythril Helm", and "Mythril Mail" respectively. Below the slots is a list of "Equippable Items" with their respective levels: "White Dress" (1), "Mythril Vest" (4), "Iron Armor" (3), and "Leather Armor" (2). To the right of this list is a table of "Character Attributes" showing current and potential values. A callout points to the "Equip" button, another to the "Equippable Items" list, and a third to the "Character Attributes" table. A fourth callout points to the "Optimize Remove All" button.

Equip Submenu

Current Equipment

Character Attributes

Attributes that will be raised by equipping the selected item are shown in yellow, and those that will be lowered are shown in gray.

Equippable Items

| Item | Level |
|---------------|-------|
| White Dress | 1 |
| Mythril Vest | 4 |
| Iron Armor | 3 |
| Leather Armor | 2 |

| Attribute | Current | Potential |
|---------------|---------|-----------|
| Strength | 34 | 34 |
| Speed | 34 | 34 |
| Stamina | 32 | 32 |
| Magic | 39 | 44 |
| Attack | 124 | 124 |
| Defense | 149 | 145 |
| Evasion | 17 | 17 |
| Magic Defense | 101 | 102 |
| Magic Evasion | 3 | 9 |

Attractive white dress that boosts the wearer's magic.

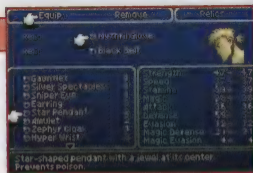
Submenu Commands

| | |
|------------|--|
| Equip | Allows you to change the character's equipment. Select the desired location, and then choose a piece of equipment from the list. |
| Optimize | Automatically equips the items that will raise the character's attributes the most. |
| Remove | Allows you to remove individual pieces of equipment from the character. |
| Remove All | Removes all weapons and armor from the character. |

Relics

This menu allows you to view and change the relics equipped to each character. If a relic that affects the rules for equipping weapons or armor is equipped or removed, you will automatically be sent to the Equip menu (see p. 25).

Note: To view the entire party's list of equipped relics, select "Relics" from the main menu, then press +Control Pad Left or Right to select all party members and press the A Button.



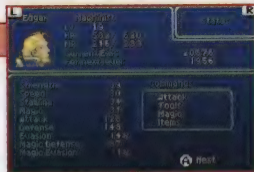
About Relics

Relics provide characters with various abilities when equipped. Each character can equip up to two relics. Some examples of relics and their effects are listed below.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Sprint Shoes | Doubles walking speed in towns and dungeons. |
| Jeweled Ring | Prevents petrification (see p. 39). |
| Muscle Belt | Provides a 50% bonus to max HP. |
| Brigand's Glove | Turns Locke's "Steal" command into the more powerful "Mug." |
| Gauntlet | Allows a character to grip a weapon with both hands, doubling its attack power. |
| Knight's Code | Causes a character to automatically cover wounded allies in combat. |

Status

The Status screen displays various information about the character, such as his or her experience point totals, attributes, and current equipment.



You can press the A Button on this screen to toggle the information displayed.



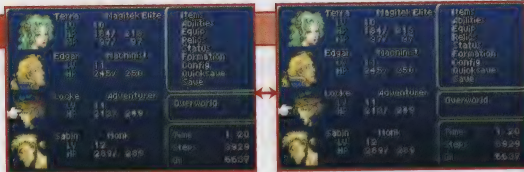
Attributes

Each character has the following attributes, which may be higher or lower than those of others depending on the character's equipment.

| | |
|----------|---|
| Strength | Affects the amount of damage dealt by the character's physical attacks. |
| Speed | Affects the amount of time between turns in combat. |
| Stamina | Affects HP recovery. |
| Magic | Affects the amount of damage dealt by the character's magical attacks. |
| Attack | The total power behind the character's physical attacks. |

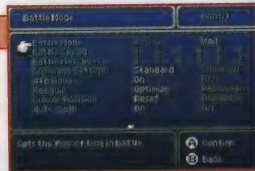
Formation

Select a character and press the A Button twice to move the character from the front row to the back row, or vice versa (see p. 34). You can also press the A Button once to select a character, then select a different character to make them exchange places.



Config

This menu allows you to adjust system settings, such as battle mode and window/font colors.



Bestiary

Accessible via the Config menu as well as from the title screen menu, the Bestiary allows you to view detailed information about all of the monsters you have defeated, such as their various attributes and the items they carry.



Quicksave

This command allows you to temporarily save your game and quit playing at any point in time (see p. 13).



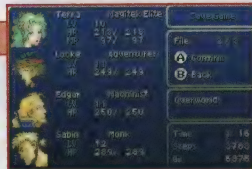
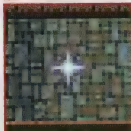
Save

Select this command to save your game to one of the three save files. You can only save your game from the overworld map or at a save point.

Overworld



Save Point



BATTLE

The battle screen appears whenever you encounter enemies. Choose battle commands for each character from the menu to defeat the enemies before they defeat you.

Active Time Battle (ATB) System

Time is always flowing during battle. You will be prompted to choose battle commands for each party member whenever the character's ATB gauge becomes full. Time continues to flow even while you are selecting commands, so don't expect enemies to wait around while you decide what to do. If you set the battle mode to "Wait" in the Config menu (see p. 28), time will stop while you are selecting abilities, items, or magic spells from submenus in battle.



■ Battle Commands (see pp. 32-34)

■ Characters' HP and ATB Gauges

The higher a character's speed (see p. 27), the faster his or her ATB gauge will fill.

End of Battle

Once you defeat all of the enemies, the battle is over. You will receive money (gil), experience points, magic acquisition points, and sometimes items.



Game Over

If all of your party members are KO'd, petrified, or turned into zombies (see p. 39), the battle is lost and the game will end. You will then have to restart from the last location where you saved the game. Any items or gil you had acquired since your last save will have to be obtained again, but you will retain any experience points or levels you had earned.



Pausing the Battle

You can press START during battle to pause the game. Press START again to unpaue it.

BATTLE COMMANDS

This section provides a basic explanation of the commands available in battle.

Attack

This command makes a character attack the selected target with his or her fists or currently equipped weapon.



Special Commands

There are several character-specific battle commands, such as Locke's "Steal" and Edgar's "Tools." Some of these commands work in unique ways (see pp. 36-37).



Skipping Turns

You can skip a character's turn without entering a command by pressing SELECT. Control will shift to the next character with a full ATB gauge.

Defend

Pressing +Control Pad Right at the battle menu will display the “Defend” command. This command causes a character to take up a defensive stance, reducing damage from physical attacks.

Note: If you have changed the command settings to “Shortcut” in the Config menu (see p. 28), pressing the R Button will display the command.

Row

Pressing +Control Pad Left at the battle menu will display the “Row” command. This command causes a character to move from the front row to the back row, or vice versa.

Note: If you have changed the command settings to “Shortcut” in the Config menu (see p. 28), pressing the L Button will display the command.



Front Row vs. Back Row

Characters in the back row receive less damage from physical attacks, but also deal less damage with their own.



Front Row

Back Row

Fleeing

You can attempt to flee from battle by pressing and holding both the L and R Buttons. Some enemies are more difficult to escape from than others, and there are some enemies from which you cannot run.



Battle Conditions

Battles may sometimes take place under the following special conditions.

PREEMPTIVE STRIKE

All of your party members begin battle with full ATB gauges.



SIDE ATTACK

Your party members surround the enemies and begin battle with full ATB gauges. Characters deal additional damage if they attack enemies whose backs are turned to them.



SURROUNDED

The enemies surround your party and gain a preemptive strike. Enemies deal additional damage if they attack characters whose backs are turned to them.



BACK ATTACK

Characters in the front row begin battle in the back row, and those in the back row begin battle in the front row. The enemies also gain a preemptive strike.



SPECIAL ABILITIES

Many character-specific abilities can be used in battle. Some of these abilities have their own unique rules and control schemes.

Blitz (Sabin)

First select the “Blitz” command from the menu, and then enter the button sequence for the desired technique. Press the A Button when you are finished to make Sabin perform the technique.



Button Sequences

The list of button sequences for Sabin's blitz techniques can be accessed via the main menu. Select “Abilities” (see p. 24), then select Sabin. Finally, select “Blitz” to view the list.

Bushido (Cyan)

After selecting Cyan's “Bushido” command in battle, the gauge shown on the right will appear and begin to fill. Press the A Button when it reaches the number of the desired technique to perform that technique.



Leap / Rage (Gau)

When Gau uses his "Rage" ability, he will fight as if he were the selected type of monster. He can add new types of monsters to his repertoire via his "Leap" command, which appears only when he is on the Veldt.



Using "Leap"

Gau's "Leap" command causes him to jump into the pack of monsters the party is fighting and immediately ends the battle. If you continue fighting on the Veldt, Gau will eventually reappear and rejoin your party. When he does, he will have learned the combat techniques of the monsters you were fighting when he leaped, as well as those you were fighting when he returned.



Slot (Setzer)

Selecting Setzer's "Slot" ability opens a window containing three spinning reels. Press the A Button to stop each of them in turn. Depending on the resulting symbol combination, various effects can occur.













STATUS EFFECTS

Certain enemy attacks and magic spells can inflict characters with status effects.

In-Battle Effects

The following effects disappear automatically at the end of battle. They can also be cured during battle with items or magic. Sleep and confusion are canceled if the character is physically attacked.

| | | |
|--|-----------|--|
|  | Sleep | Character falls asleep and cannot act. |
|  | Confusion | Character becomes confused and attacks allies. |
|  | Silence | Character becomes unable to cast magic. |
|  | Doom | Character is KO'd when the countdown reaches zero. |
|  | Berserk | Character performs physical attacks on every turn. |

| | | |
|---|---------|-----------------------------------|
|  | Reflect | Magic bounces back at the caster. |
|  | Protect | Defense is increased. |
|  | Shell | Magic defense is increased. |
|  | Haste | Speed is increased. |
|  | Slow | Speed is decreased. |



Stop

Character becomes unable to act.



Sap

Character's HP gradually dwindles.

Lasting Effects

The following status effects do not go away at the end of battle and must be removed with items or magic or by staying at an inn.

Note: Icons indicating these status effects are shown next to the names of affected characters in the main menu (see p. 21).



KO

Character has 0 HP and cannot act.



Petrification

Character is turned to stone and cannot act.



Invisibility

Character becomes invisible and cannot be hit by physical attacks. The effect is cancelled if the character is hit by magic.



Poison

Character is poisoned and gradually loses HP in battle or when walking.



Zombie

Character is turned undead and sometimes attacks allies.



Float

Character floats in midair and cannot be hit by attacks from the ground.

ESPERS

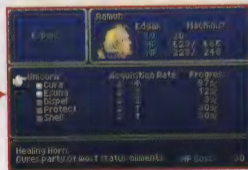
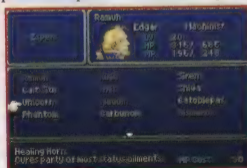
During the course of the adventure, your characters will acquire what is known as magicite and gain the ability to use magic and summon creatures known as espers.

Espers and Magicite

Espers possess magical powers. By equipping magicite, the crystallized essence of an esper's power, characters can learn magic spells and gain the ability to summon the mystic beasts.

Equipping Magicite

To equip a piece of magicite, first select "Abilities" from the main menu, then select "Espers." The list of magicite in your party's possession will be displayed, with the names of those not currently equipped shown in white. If you select a piece of magicite and press the A Button, the list of spells that can be learned from it will be displayed along with their respective acquisition rates (see p. 43) and other information, such as the magicite's level-up bonus. Press A again to equip the magicite. To unequip a piece of magicite, simply select an empty space where no esper's name is displayed and press the A Button.



Summoning Espers

Characters equipped with magicite can summon espers in battle.



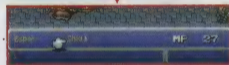
Select "Magic"

Select the "Magic" command from the battle menu (see p. 33) and the list of magic spells known by the active character will appear.



Select the Esper

When the list of magic appears, move the cursor to the top row and then press +Control Pad Up once more. The name of the esper the character can summon will be shown, along with the MP cost of summoning it. Press the A Button to summon the esper.



Level-Up Bonuses

Some magicite provides a permanent increase to a certain attribute whenever the character equipping it gains a level. For example, Ramuh provides a one-point boost to the character's stamina attribute.

Learning Magic

Characters can learn magic spells from the magicite they equip.



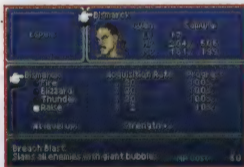
Magic Acquisition Points

If your characters have magicite equipped, they will earn magic acquisition points (AP) at the end of every battle. These points are multiplied by a spell's acquisition rate and added to the character's progress toward learning that spell.



Mastering Spells

Once a character's progress in learning a spell reaches 100%, the character masters the spell and gains the ability to use it in battle or through the main menu.



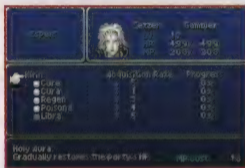
Unequipping magicite does not cause characters to lose progress toward learning spells.



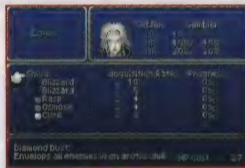
Acquisition Rates

Each spell that can be learned from a piece of magicite has an acquisition rate. For example, Kirin teaches Cure at a rate of x5. This means that a character's progress toward learning Cure will advance by 5% for each magic acquisition point earned while equipping this magicite.

Acquisition rates for the same spell vary between magicite.



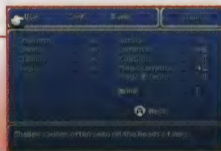
Kirin teaches Cure at a rate of x5.



Shiva teaches Cure at a rate of x3.

Other Ways to Learn Magic

Equipping certain armor or relics allows characters to learn spells in the same way as magicite. The spell acquisition rates can be found by viewing the item details (see p. 23).





MAGICITE & SPELL LISTS


The following lists are a sampling of the magicite you will obtain during the course of the game and the magic that you can learn by equipping it.


Magicite List


The multiplier in parentheses is the acquisition rate for the spell. The level-up bonus (if there is one) is shown in the upper right.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---|
| Ramuh | Stamina +1 |  |
| Bathes all enemies in lightning. | | |
| Thunder (x10) Poison (x5) | Thundara (x2) | |

| | | |
|--|---|------------|
| Kirin |  | |
| Gradually restores the party's HP. | | |
| Cure (x5) Cura (x1) Poisona (x4) Libra (x5) | | Regen (x3) |

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Siren | HP +10% |  |
| Silences all enemies. | | |
| Sleep (x10) Slow (x7) | Silence (x8) Fire (x6) | |

| | | |
|--|-------------|---|
| Ifrit | Strength +1 |  |
| Scorches all enemies in a fiery blaze. | | |
| Fire (x10) | Fira (x5) | |
| Drain (x1) | | |

| | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---|
| Shiva | | |  |
| Envelops all enemies in an arctic chill. | | | |
| Blizzard (x10) | Blizzara (x5) | Rasp (x4) | |
| Osmose (x4) | Cure (x3) | | |

Spell List

| | |
|----------|---|
| Cure | Restores HP (or deals damage to undead). |
| Cura | Restores more HP than Cure. |
| Raise | Revives a KO'd character (or slays undead). |
| Poisona | Cures poison status. |
| Esuna | Cures most status ailments. |
| Regen | Gradually restores HP. |
| Fire | Attacks with fire (light damage). |
| Blizzard | Attacks with ice (light damage). |
| Thunder | Attacks with lightning (light damage). |
| Poison | Inflicts poison. |
| Drain | Absorbs HP from the target. |

| | |
|----------|--|
| Fira | Attacks with fire (moderate damage). |
| Blizzara | Attacks with ice (moderate damage). |
| Thundara | Attacks with lightning (moderate damage). |
| Libra | Reveals information about an enemy. |
| Rasp | Deals MP damage. |
| Silence | Inflicts silence. |
| Sleep | Inflicts sleep. |
| Confuse | Inflicts confusion. |
| Imp | Turns target into an imp (or reverts an imp target). |
| Osmose | Absorbs MP from the target. |
| Teleport | Teleports the party out of a dungeon or battle. |

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